

[28th August 1926]

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know whether they have announced that Government Order which was accepted by them ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Naturally the Government Order must have been communicated."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I take it that they have not forwarded the petition referred to in this question to the local authorities concerned ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" That is a matter for the local authorities. The hon. Member might himself bring it to their notice."

Alleged disabilities of depressed classes in certain villages of North Arcot district.

* 2401 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the depressed classes in the villages of (1) No. 37, Uthirampatti, Arkonam taluk, North Arcot district, (2) Melnaickenpolliem village, Wallajah taluk, Vellore division, North Arcot district, and (3) Arnanallur village, Wallajah taluk, North Arcot district, suffer very much for want of public pathway to carry their dead bodies to the burial ground for burial ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the caste Hindus object strongly to their (' depressed classes ') passing through their (' Hindus ') patta lands to go to the burial ground carrying their dead bodies ;

(c) whether any steps have been taken on the petitions submitted by the depressed classes of those villages on 15th July 1926 through me to the Commissioner of Labour, Madras ; and

(d) if so, what is the result of the enquiries made by the Commissioner of Labour ?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, here is a complaint that the people suffer very much for want of public pathway to carry the dead bodies to the burial ground for burial. It seems to me to be a sufficiently important matter to call for the information."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no objection. I shall consider the suggestion."

Forests.

Regeneration and exploitation of forests.

* 2402 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(a) to place before the House a brief account of the methods, ways and means, and official staff employed for five years closing with the year 1925 in connexion with the preparation of working plans and with the regeneration and exploitation as well as the conservation of forests ; and

(b) to state what are the schemes in that connexion adopted for the year 1926-27 ?